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SHORT COMMUNICATION

Further records of Brachycarinus tigrinus (Schilling) (Hemiptera: Rhopalidae). - This distinctive and pretty bug was described new to Britain in 2003 from two specimens found in Battersea Park, central London (Jones, R.A. 2004. British Journal of Entomology and Natural History 17: 137–141). It later appeared in Essex (Harvey, P. & Bowdrey, J. 2006. Essex Naturalist, New series 23: 39-40). Therefore readers will not be surprised to learn that it has started to appear at several other sites in the Thames Estuary area. I swept one specimen at Swanscombe Marshes, W. Kent, TQ605765, on 21.vi.2006, at a field meeting organized by Buglife, the Invertebrate Conservation Trust as part of the "All of a buzz in the Thames Gateway" study of brownfield sites. Several specimens were swept by myself and Mark Telfer on a visit to Thames Barrier Park East, S. Essex, TQ413800, on 13.ix.2006. I also swept another rhopalid bug, Liorhyssus hyalinus (Fab.). Later that same day I swept a specimen of Brachycarinus at Southfields, Belvedere, W. Kent, TQ501800; and another was found in Woolwich, W. Kent, TQ412785. This last specimen was found on the outside of the car window as we were driving back through south London. It must have just landed, shortly before we spotted it, because a few minutes earlier we had been driving at 40-50 mph and the bug would have been unable to land at that speed. The traffic slowed almost to a standstill in Woolwich. Luckily I was able to wind the window down slightly, grab the bug in my fingers and drop it into a water bottle passed to me by Mark.-RICHARD A. JONES, 135 Friern Road, East Dulwich, London SE22 0AZ (bugmanjones@hotmail.com)